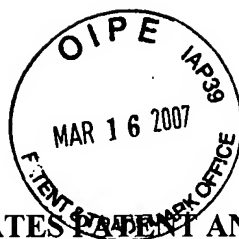


Attorney Docket # 5532-7



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Masaki SHIMADA et al.

Serial No.: 10/723,822

Filed: November 24, 2003

For: Information Processing Apparatus

Examiner: Fleurantin, Jean B.
Group Art: 2615

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 12, 2007

(Date of Deposit)

Thomas Langer

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

March 12, 2007

Date of Signature

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2006.

Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment on November 24, 2003, as confirmed by a copy of the return receipt postcard submitted herewith. However, the above-mentioned Office Action does not take such Preliminary Amendment into consideration.

During a teleconference on March 5, 2007 between the Examiner and a colleague of the undersigned (Mr. B. Marazas), the Examiner stated that the Preliminary Amendment is not included in the official file kept by the USPTO. The Examiner suggested filing a copy of the previously-filed Preliminary Amendment. Accordingly, such copy is enclosed herewith.

Applicants respectfully request a new Office Action which takes such Preliminary Amendment into consideration. Also, the period for response should be re-started.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN PONTANI LIEBERMAN & PAVANE LLP

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Dated: March 12, 2007



By Express Mail # EV410260641US

Attorney Docket # 534101-7

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Masaki SHIMADA et al.

Serial No.: n/a

Filed: concurrently

For: Information Processing Apparatus

Commissioner for Patents.
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.